## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re Patent Application of )   | MAIL STOP NEW APPLICATIONS |
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| Olivier DUREL et al.  | Group Art Unit: N/A        |
| Application No.: N/A  | Examiner: N/A              |
| Filed: February 13, 2004  | Confirmation No.: N/A      |
| For: DIENE RUBBER COMPOSITION FOR ) TIRE COMPRISING A SPECIFIC ) SILICA AS REINFORCING FILLER ) |                            |

## FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the accompanying information is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later. Since these documents are being filed within the time period set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no fee or statement is required.

This Information Disclosure Statement contains information which is not in the English language but was cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. In accordance with MPEP § 609 III A(3), an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is being submitted herewith.

FIRST Information Disclosure Statement
Application No. N/A
Attorney's Docket No. 033818-099
Page 2

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date February 13, 2004

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## Substitute for form 1449A/PTO & 1449B/PTO FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT File

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| Application Number     | N/A                  |  |
| Filing Date            | February 13, 2004    |  |
| First Named Inventor   | Olivier DUREL et al. |  |
| Examiner Name          | N/A                  |  |
| Attorney Docket Number | 033818-099           |  |

|                      | U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                         |   |                                     |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials | Document<br>Number    | Kind Code<br>(if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Issue/Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY) |
|                      | 6,191,205             | B1                      | MICOUIN et al.                                  | 02-20-2001                          |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS   |            |              |         |                     |             |         |
|----------------------------|------------|--------------|---------|---------------------|-------------|---------|
| Examiner                   | Document   | Kind Code    | Country | Date of Publication | Translation |         |
| Initials Number (if known) |            | (MM-DD-YYYY) | Yes     | No                  |             |         |
|                            | WO01/07364 | A1           | PCT     | 02-01-2001          |             |         |
|                            | EP0881252  | A1           | EPO     | 12-02-1998          |             | X       |
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|                            | WO99/28376 |              | PCT     | 06-10-1999          |             | Х       |
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| NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |   |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials            | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |  |  |  |
|                                 | International Search Report issued in Application No. PCT/EP02/09069, November 26, 2002   |  |  |  |
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| Examiner     | Date       |
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|              |            |
| Signature Co | Considered |

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.